

EXTRAORDINARY FORM OF THE ROMAN RITE

I AM the salvation of the people, saith the Lord: in what-ever tribulation they shall cry to Me, I will hear them; and I will be their Lord for ever. Ps. Attend, O My people, to My law; incline your ears to the words of My mouth.

19th Sunday After Pentecost 2008 – September 21, 2008

On the Motu Proprio, One Year Later

Liturgical worship is the supreme expression of priestly and episcopal life, and also of catechetical teaching. Your mission of sanctification of the faithful people, dear Brothers, is indispensable for the growth of the Church. I was prompted to detail, in the *Motu proprio Summorum Pontificum*, the conditions for the accomplishment of this mission, in that which relates to the possibility of using both the missal of Blessed John XXIII (1962) and that of Pope Paul VI (1970). The fruits of these new dispositions have already seen [the light of] day, and I hope that the indispensable pacification of the spirits is being accomplished, thank God.

I comprehend your difficulties, but I do not doubt that you will be able to reach, within reasonable time, solutions which are satisfactory to all, so that the seamless robe of Christ is not torn anymore. No one is excessive within the Church. Everyone, without exception, must be able to feel at home, and never rejected. God, who loves all men and wills that no one be lost, entrusts us with this mission of Pastors, making us Shepherds of His sheep. We can only give Him thanks for the honor and the confidence He places upon us. Let us endeavor to always be servants of unity.

—Pope Benedict XVI
14 September 2008

Participation in the Extraordinary Form of the Mass

The more noble form of the Eucharistic celebration is the solemn Mass because in it the solemnities of ceremonies, ministers, and sacred music all combine to express the magnificence of the divine mysteries, and to impress upon the

minds of the faithful the devotion with which they should contemplate them. Therefore, we must strive that the faithful have the respect due to this form of worship by properly participating in it in the ways described below.

25. In solemn Mass there are three degrees of the participation of the faithful:

a) First, the congregation can sing the liturgical responses. These are: *Amen; Et cum spiritu tuo; Gloria tibi, Domine; Habemus ad Dominum; Dignum et justum est; Sed libera nos a malo; Deo gratias*. Every effort must be made that the faithful of the entire world learn to sing these responses.

b) Secondly, the congregation can sing the parts of the Ordinary of the Mass: *Kyrie eleison; Gloria in excelsis Deo; Credo; Sanctus-Benedictus; Agnus Dei*. Every effort must be made that the faithful learn to sing these parts, particularly according to the simpler Gregorian melodies. But if they are unable to sing all these parts, there is no reason why they cannot sing the easier ones: *Kyrie eleison; Sanctus-Benedictus; Agnus Dei*; the choir, then, can sing the *Gloria*, and *Credo*.

—Pope Pius XII (20 November 1947)

